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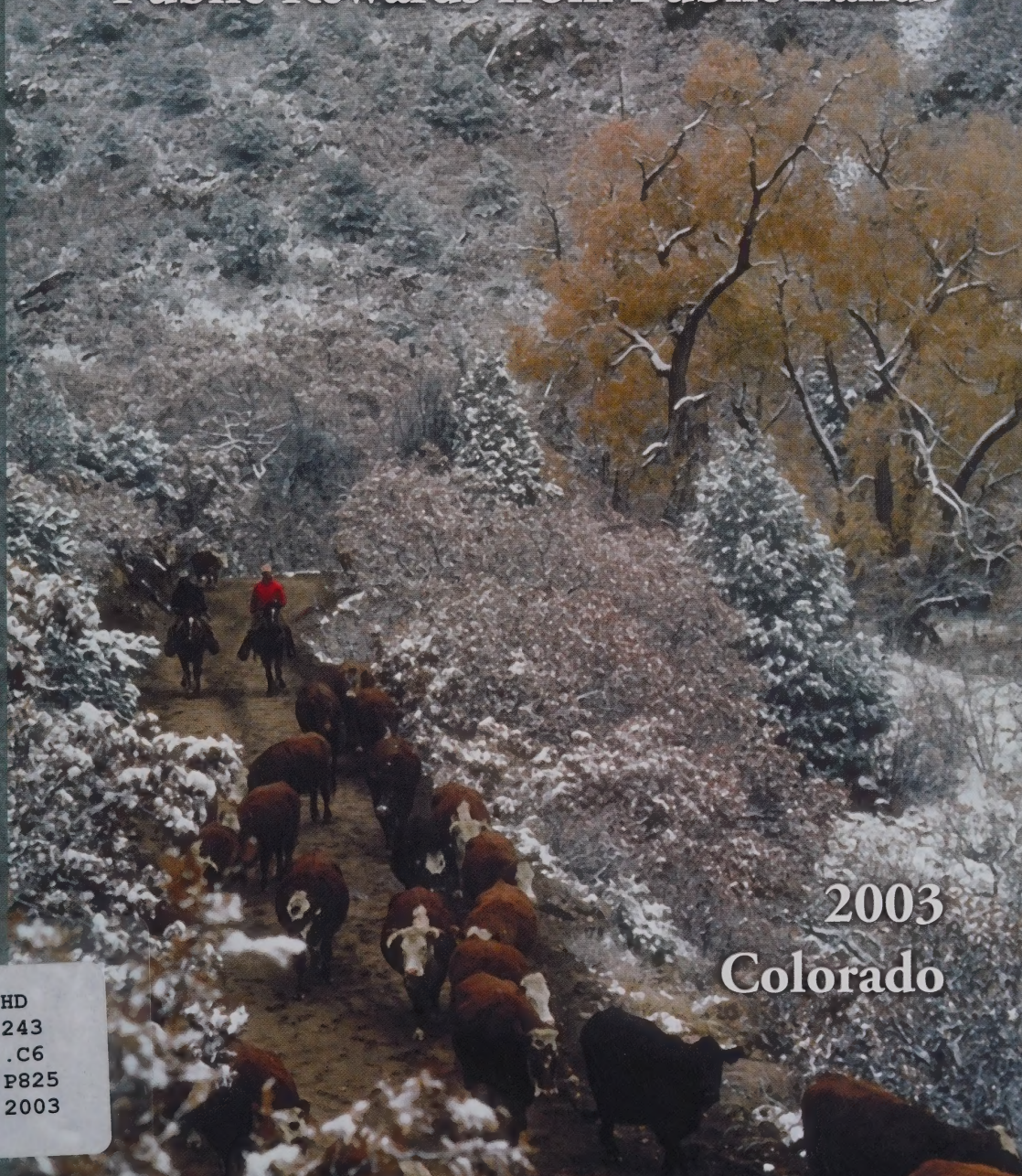
BLM

Public Rewards from Public Lands

Bureau of Land Management

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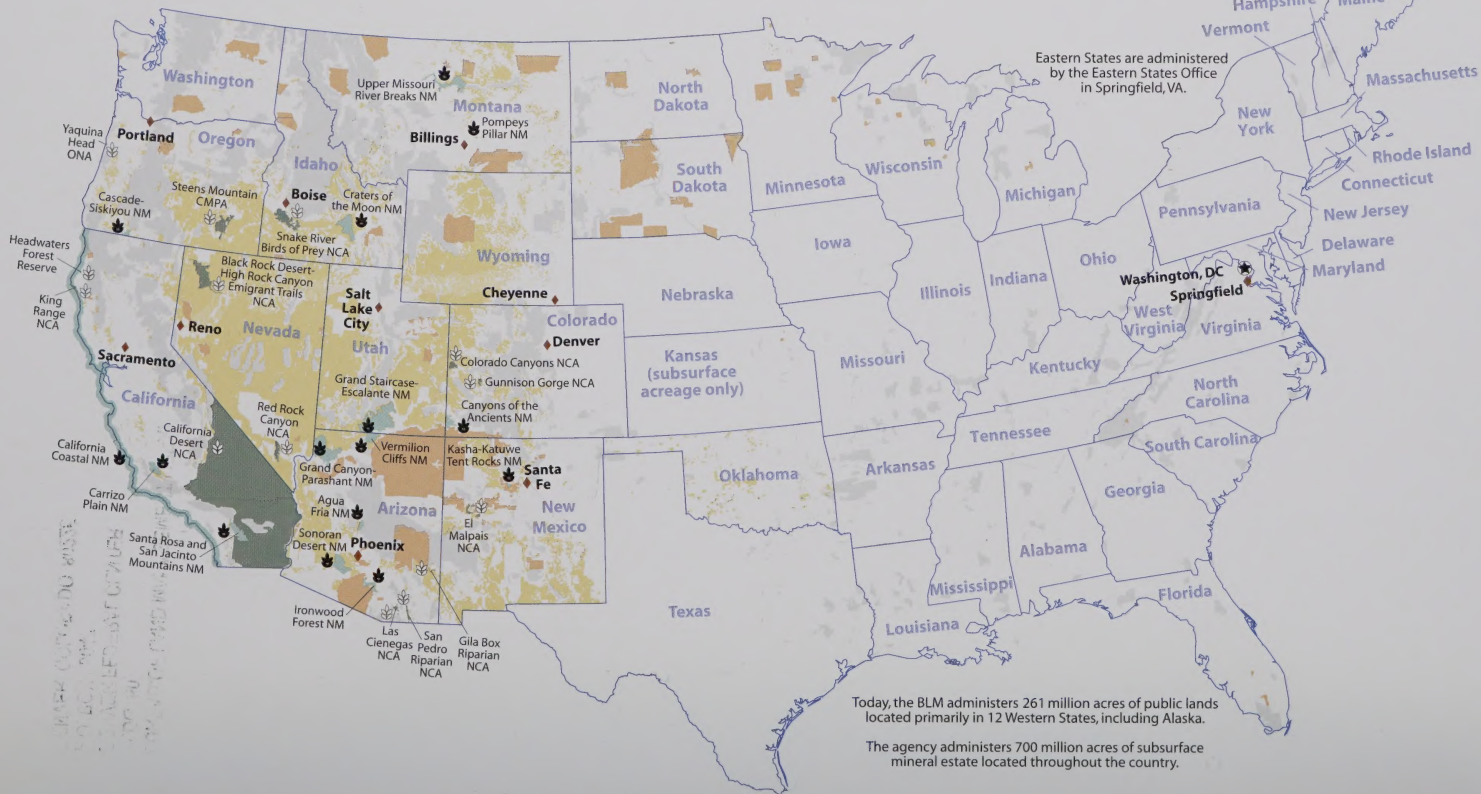


Public Lands Managed by the Bureau of Land Management



- BLM-managed lands
- BLM-administered minerals underlying Federal surface (excluding National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service units)
- BLM National Monument
- BLM National Conservation, Recreation, and Protection Areas (National Conservation Areas, National Recreation Areas, Outstanding Natural Areas, and Cooperative Management and Protection Areas)
- Tribal lands where the BLM has trust responsibility for mineral operations
- BLM State Office
- State Boundaries
- BLM Headquarters

In the Eastern United States, the BLM manages 39.7 million acres of subsurface mineral estate and 30,000 acres of surface, mostly small isolated parcels scattered throughout 31 States.



Today, the BLM administers 261 million acres of public lands located primarily in 12 Western States, including Alaska.

The agency administers 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate located throughout the country.

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Public Rewards from Public Lands

THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT might best be described as a small agency with a big mission: *To sustain the health, productivity, and diversity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.*

We are responsible for 261 million acres of public land—nearly one-eighth of all land in the United States—and 700 million acres of Federal subsurface mineral estate nationwide.

These lands contribute to the quality of life of the American people—and to our national interests—in many different ways. Encompassing some of the most spectacular landscapes on the continent, the public lands offer boundless opportunities for recreation and adventure. BLM-managed lands also support such activities as livestock grazing, timber harvesting, energy development, and mineral production, all of which are vital to the health of local economies and to our national economy.

While managing these lands for the public benefit today, we fulfill our

obligations to future generations by conserving the land and the natural resources found there. Conservation means protecting the quality of the air and water, the health of natural ecosystems, and the habitat of plants and animals, as well as preserving cultural and heritage resources that are also part of America's public lands legacy.

As President Bush has said: *"...Our duty is to use the land well, and sometimes, not to use it at all. This is our responsibility as citizens; but, more than that, it is our calling as stewards of the Earth."*

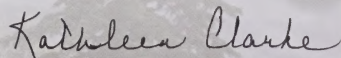
Providing balanced stewardship of our natural resources is more challenging today than ever before. Over the past century, the population of the West has grown from about 4.3 million to 63 million people. Today, 22 million people live within 25 miles of the public lands. This phenomenal population growth and more intense urbanization have broad impacts on the resources we manage.

As a result, the BLM's mission grows more complex each day. We cannot fulfill that mission alone, nor

should we even attempt to do so. Good stewardship of the public lands will not be found in bigger government, but in broader public participation in this land-management process.

In publishing the 2003 edition of *Public Rewards from Public Lands*, we wish to acknowledge the support that the Bureau of Land Management receives from thousands of its partners—States, tribes, counties, local communities, organizations, and individual citizens. In addition, the BLM benefits from the dedicated service of more than 17,000 volunteers each year. Our many supporters and citizen stewards contribute immeasurably to the success of our mission, and we are indebted to them.

We are pleased to dedicate this edition of *Public Rewards from Public Lands* to all who help us carry out the stewardship of America's public lands.



Kathleen Clarke
Director

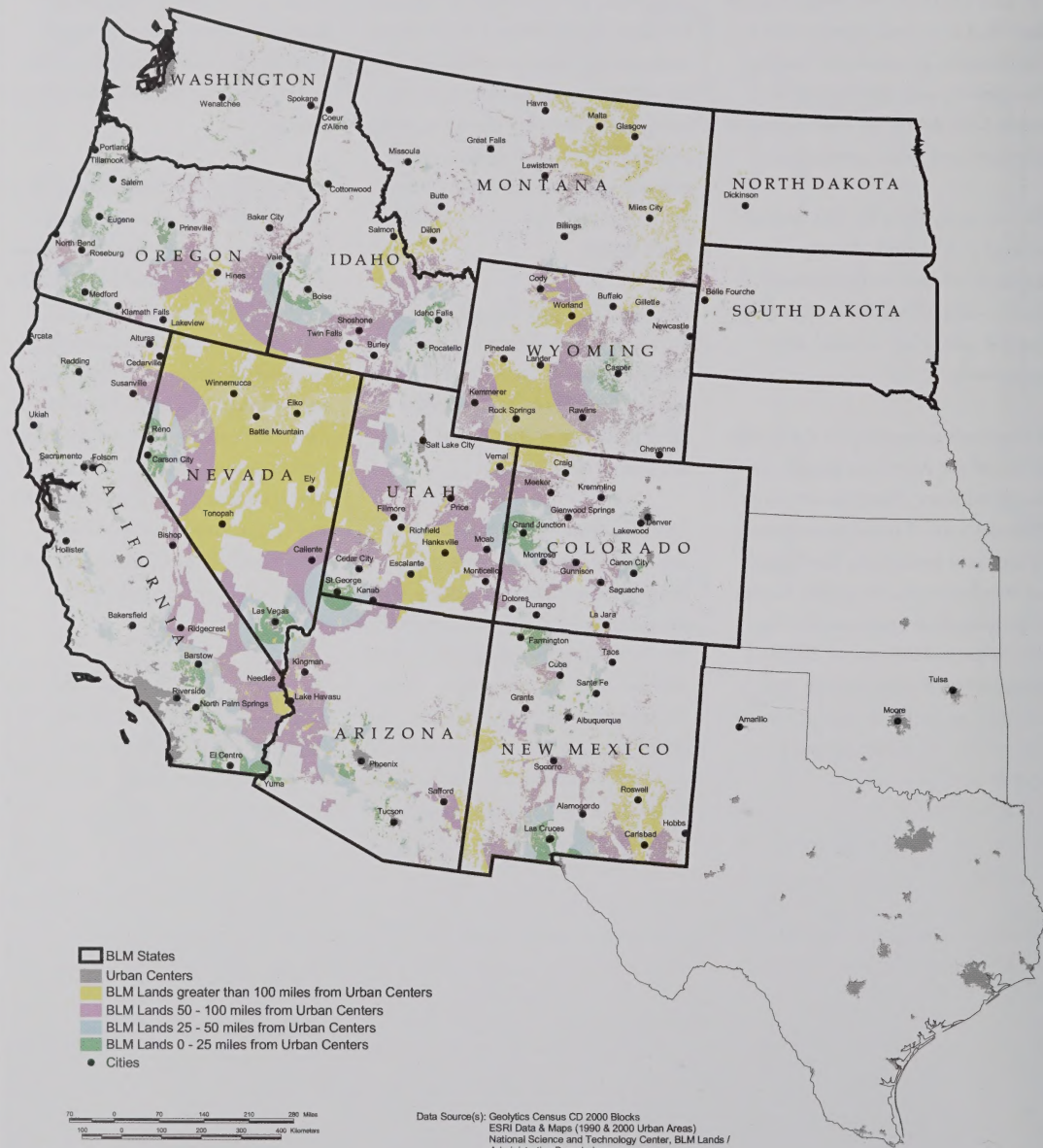
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Public Rewards from Public Lands 2003

COLORADO

BLM Proximity to Urban Centers



Albers equal area projection based on standard parallels 29.5 and 45.5
 1927 North American datum

Prepared By: Washington DC Office
 WO-210 Planning, Assessment and Community Support

August 2002

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National Figures, Fiscal Year 2002

Federal Collections from BLM-Managed Lands and Minerals

Grazing Fees	\$12,788,353
Recreation and Use Fees	\$9,499,776
FLPMA Rights-of-Way Rent	\$9,240,121
Miscellaneous Receipts	\$27,447,919
Sale of Land and Materials	\$98,636,919
Timber Receipts	
Public Domain	\$2,713,213
Oregon and California (O&C) Land Grant Fund	\$14,646,520
Coos Bay Wagon Roads (CBWR) Grant Fund	\$179,918
Mining Claim Holding Fees and Service Charges	\$19,404,900
Helium Operations	\$21,138,855
Mineral Royalties, Rents, and Bonuses ¹	\$1,399,312,095
TOTAL	\$1,615,008,589

Direct BLM Financial Transfers to the States

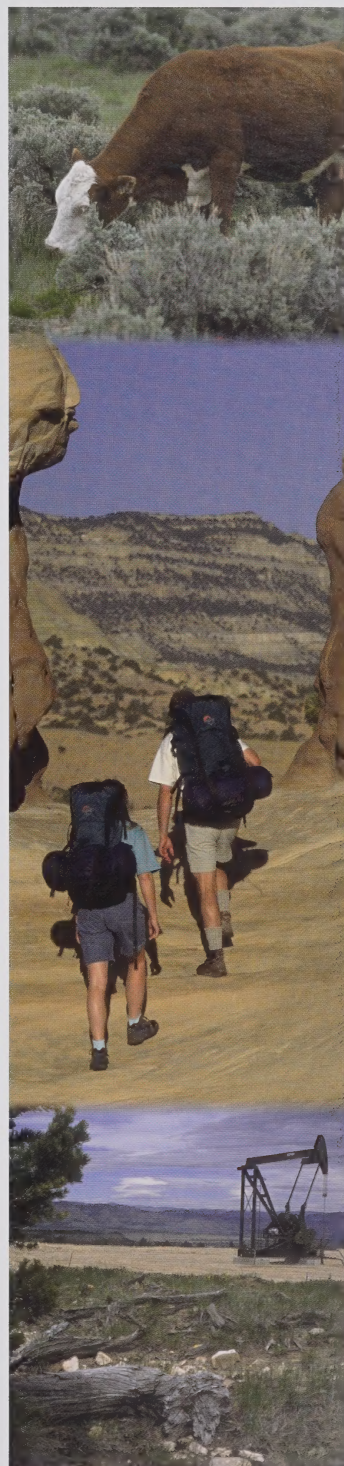
Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)	\$209,281,876
Grazing Fees ²	\$53,926
Proceeds of Sales ²	\$13,885,700
Timber Receipts	
Public Domain ²	\$2,962
O&C Grant Lands	\$108,731,945
CBWR Grant Lands	\$948,323
National Grasslands	\$562,180
Mineral Royalties, Rents, and Bonuses	\$691,253,752
TOTAL	\$1,024,720,664

BLM Investment in the States

Management of Land and Resources	\$674,615,000
Land Acquisition	\$44,566,000
Range Improvements	\$9,400,000
Construction and Access	\$11,676,000
Management of O&C Lands	\$100,869,000
Helium Operations	\$7,123,000
Central Hazardous Materials Fund	\$2,049,000
Wildland Fire Preparedness	\$107,643,000
Wildland Fire Operations	\$138,838,000
TOTAL	\$1,096,779,000

¹ Actual fiscal year 2002 figures would normally be derived from an automated statistical system, Mineral Revenues Information (MRI), operated by the Minerals Management Service (MMS). The MRI that operated under the former Auditing and Financial System (AFS) was terminated in October 2001 when MMS switched from AFS to a new financial system. Development of MRI under the new financial system was delayed when a Federal District Court Order terminated the Department of the Interior's access to the Internet beginning December 6, 2001. MMS was not authorized to resume connection to the Internet until March 22, 2002. Work on MRI development could not continue without Internet access. Once MRI is completed, actual fiscal year 2002 data will become available. The allocation of receipts by revenue type and commodity for Federal onshore and American Indian lands have necessarily been estimated by MMS analysts in conjunction with a senior Department analyst. These estimates took into account known transactions during fiscal year 2002 and historical averages. The analysts generally used historical data from the fiscal year 1998 through fiscal year 2000 period for many of the estimates. Fluid mineral revenues during fiscal year 2001 were skewed by unusually high oil and gas prices during that year. The analysts elected to use the fiscal year 1998 through fiscal year 2000 period, when oil and gas prices approached historic norms.

² Due to a change in procedures, only the payment for the 12th month was made to the States in fiscal year 2002. Previously, the payments for the first 11 months of the fiscal year (October through August) were made in September of the same fiscal year and the payment for the 12th month was made in late October or early November of the next fiscal year. This procedure was changed in fiscal year 2002, for which there will be only one payment. Therefore, the only payment that was made in fiscal year 2002 was the payment for the 12th month of fiscal year 2001, which caused the decrease in the amount of the payments.



Photos by Jerry Smitz

Top photo from BLM; middle and bottom photos by Kelly Rigby



National Commercial Use Activity on BLM-Managed Land, Fiscal Year 2002

Grazing Permits and Leases	18,186 permits and leases, 12,707,702 animal unit months
Timber Volume Sold	325,284 hundred cubic feet
Oil and Gas Leasing	3,222 new holes started, 11,413,544 acres in producing status, 61,424 wells capable of production
Helium Activity	10 active helium storage contracts, 31.58 billion cubic feet stored, 54 independent producers
Geothermal Production	57 producing leases, 5,720 gigawatt hours of energy
Coal Production ¹	127 producing leases, 393,505,951 tons produced
Mineral Materials (Salables)	4,433 permits issued, 13,783,154 cubic yards produced
Nonenergy Leasables ¹	453,775 acres under lease, 13,484,632 tons produced
Exploration and Mining Activity (Locatables)	326 notices reviewed, 134 plans of operation reviewed
Rights-of-Way	3,146 granted

¹ Denotes fiscal year 2001 figures. Actual fiscal year 2002 figures would normally be derived from an automated statistical system, Mineral Revenues Information (MRI), operated by the Minerals Management Service (MMS). The MRI that operated under the former Auditing and Financial System (AFS) was terminated in October 2001 when MMS switched from AFS to a new financial system. Development of MRI under the new financial system was delayed when a Federal District Court Order terminated the Department of the Interior's access to the Internet beginning December 6, 2001. MMS was not authorized to resume connection to the Internet until March 22, 2002. Work on MRI development could not continue without Internet access. Once MRI is completed, actual fiscal year 2002 data will become available.

Estimated National Recreation Use on BLM-Managed Land, Fiscal Year 2002

Visitor Days	
Boating—motorized	2,353,777
Boating—row, float, or paddle	1,894,871
Camping and picnicking	29,969,301
Driving for pleasure	3,302,988
Fishing	1,928,941
Hunting	5,210,478
Interpretation, education, and viewing public land resources	4,978,896
Nonmotorized travel	5,762,188
Off-highway vehicle travel	5,598,884
Snowmobile and other winter motorized travel	192,154
Specialized motor sports, events, and activities	118,955
Specialized nonmotor sports, events, and activities	4,942,818
Swimming and other water activities	1,131,712
Winter/nonmotorized activities	418,551
TOTAL	67,804,514

Recreation Fee Demonstration Program

100 projects \$8,652,871 collected

National Wild Horse and Burro Program, Fiscal Year 2002

Animal	Estimated Current Population	Animals Taken Off Range	Number of Animals Adopted ¹
Wild horses	34,496	10,822	5,987
Wild burros	4,319	1,207	1,759

¹ Some animals are not adopted the same year that BLM removes them from the range. In addition, beginning in 1999, adoptions are being reported by administrative offices, i.e., adoptions conducted in the national centers in Palomino Valley, Nevada, and Elm Creek, Nebraska, are now reported under the National Program Office.

**Public Land Treasures on the Public Lands and Related Waters
(Administrative and Congressional Designations Managed by the BLM)**

BLM's National Landscape Conservation System

National Monuments—(4,806,301 acres in 15 monuments)

71,100	acres in Agua Fria National Monument in Arizona
807,241	acres in Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument in Arizona
129,022	acres in Ironwood Forest National Monument in Arizona
486,603	acres in Sonoran Desert National Monument in Arizona
280,324	acres in Vermilion Cliffs National Monument in Arizona
883	acres in the California Coastal National Monument
204,107	acres in Carrizo Plains National Monument in California
86,400	acres in Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument in California
163,852	acres in Canyons of the Ancients in Colorado
273,847	acres in Craters of the Moon National Monument in Idaho
51	acres in Pompeys Pillar National Monument in Montana
374,976	acres in Upper Missouri National Monument in Montana
4,148	acres in Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument in New Mexico
52,947	acres in Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument in Oregon
1,870,800	acres in Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah

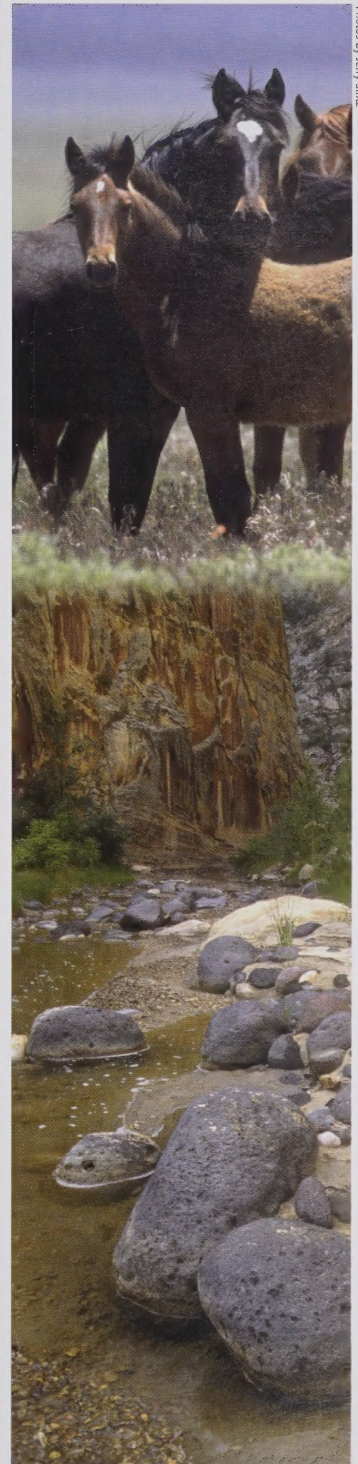
National Conservation, Recreation, and Protection Areas (15,352,829 acres in 15 areas)

1,194,923	acres in Steese National Conservation Area in Alaska - includes Birch Creek Wild and Scenic River
998,772	acres in White Mountains National Recreation Area in Alaska
22,047	acres in Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area in Arizona
41,960	acres in Las Cienegas National Conservation Area in Arizona
56,400	acres in San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area in Arizona
10,671,080 ¹	acres in California Desert National Conservation Area in California
57,288	acres in King Range National Conservation Area in California
122,182	acres in Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area in Colorado and Utah
57,725	acres in Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area in Colorado
484,873 ²	acres in Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area in Idaho
797,039	acres in Black Rock Desert, High Rock Canyon, Emigrant Trail National Conservation Area in Nevada and California
196,890	acres in Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area in Nevada
226,000	acres in El Malpais National Conservation Area in New Mexico
425,550	acres in Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area in Oregon
100	acres in Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area in Oregon

Other National Landscape Conservation System Units Managed by the BLM

7,400	acres in the Headwaters Forest Reserve in California
2,061	miles of 38 Wild and Scenic Rivers (20% of the national system) in 5 states - 1,005,652 acres managed
6,255,212	acres in 147 Wilderness Areas
16,328,282	acres in 601 Wilderness Study Areas under interim management
3,650	miles of 9 National Historic Trails (855 miles of the national system) (Iditarod, Juan Bautista De Anza, California Immigrant, Nez Perce, Lewis and Clark, Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, Pony Express, and El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro)
640	miles of 2 National Scenic Trails (409 miles of the Continental Divide and 231 miles of the Pacific Crest)
Subtotal:	828 units/areas/landscapes in over 43 million acres (17 percent of the BLM's land base)

Public Land Treasures on the Public Lands and Related Waters (continued on page 6)



Photos by Jerry Stritz



Top photo by Nick Seibert; middle and bottom photos by Jerry Smitz

BLM photo

Public Land Treasures on the Public Lands and Related Waters (continued from page 5)

Additional Administrative and Congressional Designations

37,579	acres in the Lake Totatonten Special Management Area, Alaska
23,200,000	acres in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska
13,989,373	acres in 852 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
417,429	acres in 45 National Natural Landmarks
347,214	acres in 152 Research Natural Areas
187	miles of the Willamette American Heritage River in Oregon
2,972 ³	miles of 55 National Back Country Byways in 11 BLM western states
425	miles of 28 National Recreation Trails
355	Special Recreation Management Areas
255	sites on the National Register of Historic Places encompassing 3,610 contributing properties
22	cultural sites as National Historic Landmarks
5	World Heritage properties (Chacoan Outliers of New Mexico)
3	Biosphere Reserves in the California Desert
2 ⁴	Globally Important Bird Areas in 56,500 acres (San Pedro Riparian NCA, Arizona; Yaquina Head National Outstanding Natural Area, Oregon)
29,732,585	acres in 208 Herd Management Areas for wild and free-roaming horses and burros
897	recorded caves and cave resource systems
300	watchable wildlife viewing sites

¹ California Desert National Conservation Area - BLM acreage includes 1,812 acres presently in an "uncertain ownership" category.

² Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area - totals do not include 9,974 acres of open waters that also exist within the exterior boundary of the NCA.

³ The mileage includes those byways administratively designated under the BLM's Back Country Byway Program. In addition, the BLM is involved in the cooperative management of an additional 17 byways, totaling 2,492 miles on public lands, which have been recognized by State or national designations. Collectively, these two categories make up the BLM's byway program.

⁴ The acreage for Globally Important Bird Areas is contained within a National Conservation Area and Yaquina Head National Outstanding Natural Area.



The National Fire Plan

YOU READ ABOUT IT in the papers. You see it on television. Homes and neighborhoods destroyed. Firefighters at risk. It seems that wildfires have become part of our lives these days and they get worse every summer.

Every year, weather and fuel specialists predict the potential for wildland fire across the United States based on weather patterns and drought. But one thing they can't predict is lightning. And lightning usually means the difference between a normal fire season and a severe one.

Back in the fall of 2000, with the promise of rain, snow, and cooler temperatures in October, many people hoped they had seen the worst of the wildland fires. They hoped never to have to relive an extreme season like the one they had just experienced, in which thousands of people were threatened by wildfire, hundreds of homes were destroyed, and more than 8 million acres of forest and rangelands were blackened. Yet the 2001 season turned into almost a repeat of what happened the year before, although the intensity was short-lived, lasting only about a month.

Then came the 2002 season, and it seemed to many that 2000 was happening all over again. Thousands of evacuations were ordered, and a record number of structures were

destroyed—more than 2,600—even though the number of acres of land that burned didn't quite reach the 2000 total. In short, in 2002, more communities were affected by wildfires than ever before.

Solid steps have been taken to prevent catastrophic wildland fire seasons. A National Fire Plan was created to enhance the nation's response to wildland fire, reduce the threat of fire to communities and natural resources, and restore and rehabilitate lands damaged by fire. Most importantly, the plan increases the safety of the public and firefighters affected by the recurring intense and erratic fires.

Wildland fire is part of nature's process. It has a place and a purpose in maintaining ecosystem health. For decades, fires have been suppressed, allowing fuels to accumulate and resource health to suffer. The National Fire Plan recognizes that wildlands did not get in this condition—where fires become large and threatening—overnight, and that it will take many years to correct the problem. The plan emphasizes the importance of eliminating fuels before fires start, rather than relying on suppression efforts alone. Accomplishing that task is a long-term commitment. But by carefully returning public land to a more natural state through rigorous hazardous fuel treatment, including fires that are



Bob Piro

BLM photos



planned and managed, several goals are accomplished simultaneously: *we protect communities, we restore resource health, and we increase public and firefighter safety.*

Key Points and Accomplishments

Since the implementation of the National Fire Plan began, there have been a number of significant accomplishments pertaining to each of the five key points in the plan.

Firefighting

- **Preparedness.** The National Fire Plan provided funding needed by firefighting agencies to respond to fires at the most efficient and safe level while achieving management objectives and minimizing the cost of suppression and resource damage. The plan included a workforce development strategy that enabled agencies to hire almost 5,500 additional firefighters. Under this strategy, additional seasonal firefighters were hired and new permanent fire management and related natural resource positions were filled. The strategy also involved converting some temporary employee appointments to permanent jobs.
- **Fire Facilities Maintenance and Construction.** Adequate fire facilities are critical to efficient and safe fire operations. Funding has been provided for maintenance and capital improvement on wildland fire facilities such as air tanker bases (tankers are critical to initial

attack), crew facilities, engine houses, and helitack bases to address and eliminate critical health and safety problems. In all, about \$38 million was spent in 2001 to improve or maintain 144 facilities, including air tanker bases in Montana, Oregon, California, New Mexico, Utah, and Arizona.

- **Equipment.** With funding provided through the National Fire Plan, additional equipment has been purchased, including 406 wildland firefighting engines, 56 bulldozers, 14 tractor plows, and 24 water/foam tenders. An additional 31 helicopter contracts have also been issued.
- **Fire Science Research and Technology Development.** Since 1998, the Joint Fire Science Program has been using state-of-the-art approaches in fuels inventory and mapping, evaluation of fuels treatments, scheduling of fuels treatments, and monitoring of treatment effects and effectiveness. The Fire Plan has doubled funding to \$16 million for the program, helping to fund nearly two dozen research projects in 2001 and 60 research projects in 2002. The projects focused on gathering information and developing tools to help firefighters better prepare for wildfires and allocate firefighting resources. This research includes identifying smoke transport patterns, predicting fire weather conditions, and improving fire risk assessments. All of this work helps firefighters

make critical safety decisions; guide deployment of firefighting forces to increase efficiency; and reduce damages to resources and property, as well as injuries to firefighters.

Rehabilitation and Restoration

Short-term rehabilitation projects help prevent further damage to ecosystems and communities as a result of fire. Long-term restoration projects help improve land unlikely to recover naturally from fire, prevent invasions of noxious weeds and exotic species, and reduce disease and bug infestations. The National Fire Plan funding so far has allowed agencies to increase their rehabilitation and restoration work and they have planned or implemented 549 projects in 19 States.

Hazardous Fuels Reduction

Congress provided nearly \$800 million in the last 2 years for fuel management and reduction to address dense forest vegetation resulting from decades of wildfire suppression and fire exclusion on Federal land. Activities have been focused on wildland-urban interface areas to reduce the risks of fire to people and property. These projects help support local communities by using local contractors and assistance. In 2001, fuel treatments were completed on more than 2 million acres of Federal land, including 611,550 acres in the wildland-urban interface.

Community Assistance

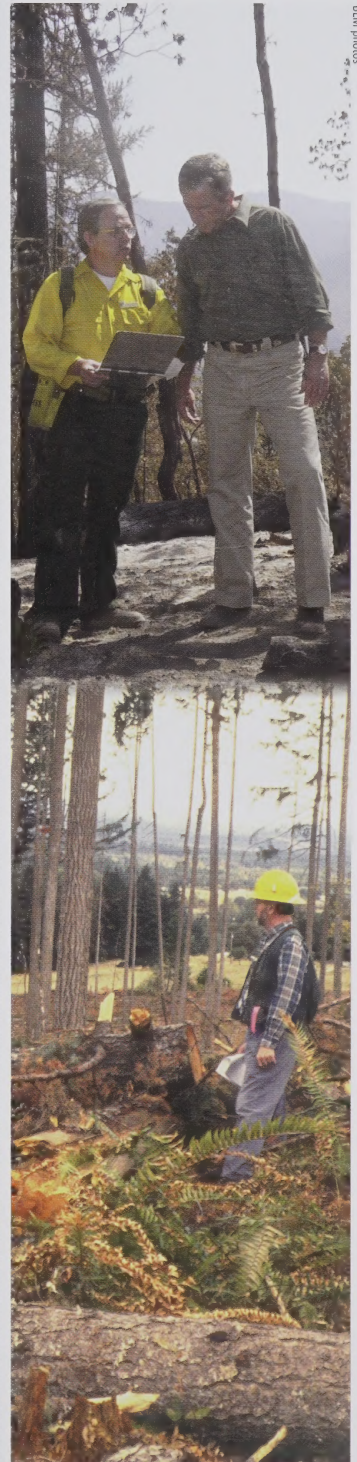
- **Rural, Volunteer, and State Fire Assistance.** Safe and effective fire

suppression in the wildland-urban interface requires close coordination among rural, local, State, tribal, and Federal firefighting agencies. The National Fire Plan so far has provided \$20 million for a new Department of the Interior rural fire assistance program. This funding helps enhance the fire protection capabilities of rural fire departments through training, equipment purchases, and prevention work on a cost-shared basis.

- **Fire Prevention and Education.**

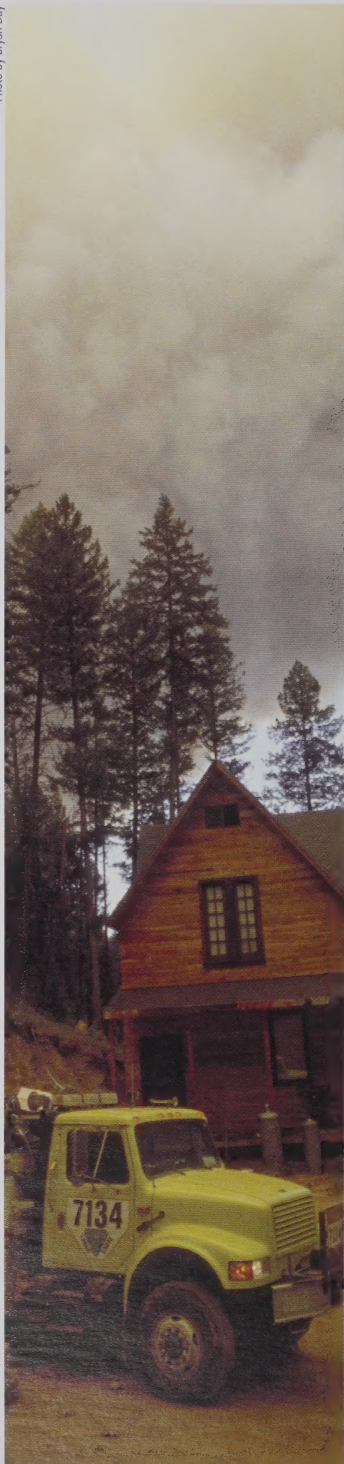
Education is a critical element of the National Fire Plan. We need to help the public understand wildland fire and the challenges it presents where wildlands intermingle with urban and suburban land. Firewise, a program with an online Web site, publications, videos, and training events, provides educational programs and materials to help people create wildland-fire-resistant homes and communities. In 2001, through the National Fire Plan, \$5 million went toward developing and delivering a series of national Firewise workshops.

- **Communities at Risk.** Congress has directed the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to work with individual States and tribes to develop a list of communities in the wildland-urban interface at high risk from wildfire. Based on this list, 1,776 communities in the vicinity of Interior or Forest Service land were scheduled to receive hazardous fuel treatments.



BOB PHOTOS

Photo by Bryan Day



Additional communities, which were not near Federal land, had projects funded through Forest Service State Fire Assistance, Volunteer Fire Assistance, and Economic Action funds.

Accountability

Accountability is a cornerstone of the National Fire Plan. Indeed, the success of the plan depends upon constant review of the steps taken to implement the plan. Toward this end, in early 2002, the Interagency Wildland Fire Leadership Council was established to provide oversight and coordinate the efforts of Federal and State agencies. Additional opportunities to improve coordination and integration have also been explored with oversight and external organizations including the General Accounting Office, both Departments' Offices of the Inspector General, Office of Management and Budget, National Academy of Public Administration, National Association of Counties, National Association of State Foresters, and Western Governors' Association.

Other Partnerships and Initiatives

The National Fire Plan is, in essence, a long-term commitment founded on interagency and inter-governmental partnerships and cooperation. The plan is complex and requires close coordination among Federal, State, tribal, and local governments to implement the blueprints they've designed to help reduce the hazards of catastrophic

fire and increase the benefits of natural fire. Numerous partnerships and initiatives have evolved from the National Fire Plan.

The 10-Year Strategy

In August 2001, the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior joined the Western Governors' Association, National Association of State Foresters, National Association of Counties, and Intertribal Timber Council in endorsing "A Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment: A 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy."

The strategy outlines a comprehensive approach to managing wildland fire, hazardous fuel, and ecosystem restoration and rehabilitation on Federal and adjacent State, tribe, and private forest and rangeland across the United States. The strategy emphasizes measures to reduce the risk to communities and the environment and provides a framework for collaboration to accomplish this.

The implementation plan for this strategy was finalized and signed on May 23, 2002. The implementation plan outlines the goals and actions necessary to accomplish the strategy and emphasizes local decisions for local problems; collaborative decisionmaking; and the commitment of many industry, environmental, and governmental groups. In essence, the strategy and plan provide a long-term map and directions for implementing the National Fire Plan.

Performance Measures

Interior agencies and the Forest Service are cooperatively developing performance measures for their wildland fire management programs. This common set of performance measures will be used by the agencies to provide nationally consistent, standardized direction for implementing the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, National Fire Plan, 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy, and 10-Year Implementation Plan.

As directed by Congress, the Departments are working with other Federal agencies, State and local governments, tribes, and other interested parties to develop these performance measures. Performance outcomes and associated workload measures will be developed for the following four areas of wildland fire management: improving prevention and suppression, reducing hazardous fuels, restoring fire-adapted ecosystems, and assisting communities.

Healthy Forests: An Initiative for Wildfire Prevention and Stronger Communities

Under President Bush's Healthy Forests Initiative, Interior Secretary Gale Norton, Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman, and Council on Environmental Quality Chairman James Connaughton have been directed to improve regulatory processes to ensure more timely decisions, greater efficiency, and better results in reducing the risk of

catastrophic wildfires by restoring forest health. Actions include:

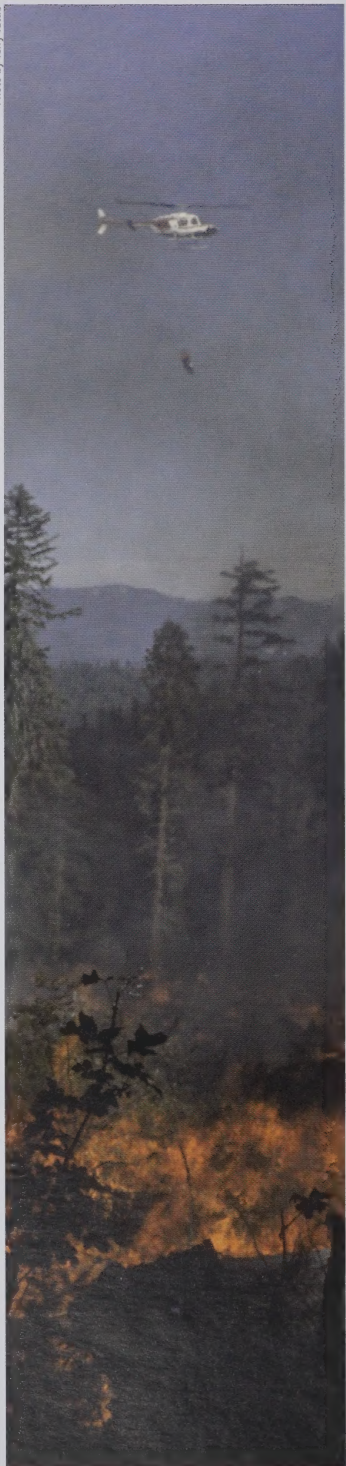
- Improving procedures for developing and implementing fuels treatment and forest restoration projects in priority forests and rangelands, in collaboration with local governments.
- Reducing the number of overlapping environmental reviews by combining project analyses and establishing a process for concurrent project clearance by Federal agencies.
- Developing guidance for weighing the short-term risks against the long-term benefits of fuels treatment and restoration projects.
- Developing guidance to ensure consistent National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) procedures for fuels treatment activities and restoration activities, including development of a model environmental assessment for these types of projects.

By allowing the use of byproducts from forest health and restoration activities and hazardous fuel reduction treatments for commercial opportunities, these activities also support the President's National Energy Policy. The byproducts could be used for engineered wood products, energy production, biofuels, or other specialty wood products.



Brian photo

Photo by Terry Turile



Ultimately, the President's Healthy Forests Initiative will implement core components of the 10-Year Implementation Plan, thus enhancing and facilitating the work and collaboration agreed to in that document.

FEDERAL AGENCIES and their partners have come a long way since the inception of the National Fire Plan. Thousands more firefighters have been hired, equipment has been purchased, rehabilitation and restoration projects have begun, hazardous fuels have been reduced near communities, and hundreds of communities have been reached through ongoing education efforts.

Photo by Scott Moore



Though we continue to hope for no more repeats of the recent severe fire seasons, we must be realistic: it will take time to restore forests and rangeland to their natural state where fire benefited the habitat. And it will take time to reduce hazardous fuel to protect the thousands of communities located near wildlands.

However, time is not the only factor that will ensure the success of the National Fire Plan. Federal, State, tribal, and local agencies must continue to work closely with communities and other partners to reach decisions that benefit all who use, appreciate, or live near wildlands.

Landscaping for woodland homes

ZONE 1 - This area, closest to the house, is the most critical for fire protection. Have nothing flammable, including tall grass, evergreen trees, and shrubs, next to the house. Also, avoid trees that overhang the house or deck as well as leaves, brush, firewood piles, bark, mulch, and other burnables. Clean gutters, roof, and deck of flammable debris. This area does not have to be barren. Maintain a well-kept lawn, or use crushed brick or river stone gravel instead of mulch. Use raised beds, large decorative rocks, stone walkways, patios, or other features to create visual interest while maintaining a fuel break for forest fire safety.

ZONE 2 - Maintain a well-kept lawn, and avoid evergreens that catch fire easily and burn quickly. Occasional trees and shrubs should be at least 10 feet from the house and up to 20 feet away on the downhill side. Remove all downed wood fuel such as logs or branches, and avoid using railroad ties or other flammable material in your landscaping. Freshly tilled flower beds, herb or vegetable gardens, rock gardens, stone walls, and driveways can also act as fire breaks.

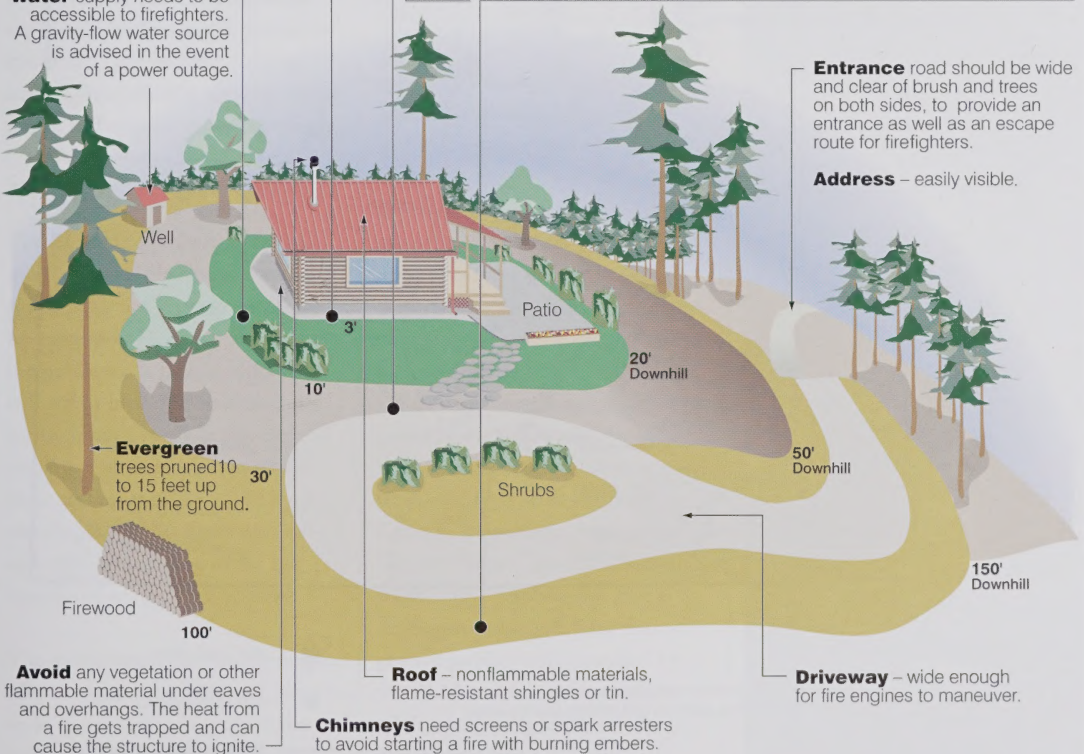
ZONE 3 - Rake or use a leaf blower to remove needles, leaves, and twigs at least 20 feet from the house and up to 50 feet on the downhill side. Firewood and other burnables should be stored at least 30 feet from the house. Maintain surface vegetation at 3 inches high or less. This will help keep fire from spreading to or from your house. It also provides a space for firefighters to defend your home from fire.

ZONE 4 - Space trees with 10 to 15 feet between tree crowns, and prune trees 10 to 15 feet up from the ground or one-third the total live crown height, whichever is less. Also, avoid fire ladders, where fire can climb from the ground into tree branches. Do this by pruning trees, spacing tall trees away from medium-sized trees, and using ground cover or small plants under tall trees. Shrubs should be well-maintained, kept free from dead material, and kept small. Control brush and weeds annually, and remove all downed woody fuels more than 3 inches in diameter.

Water supply needs to be accessible to firefighters. A gravity-flow water source is advised in the event of a power outage.

Entrance road should be wide and clear of brush and trees on both sides, to provide an entrance as well as an escape route for firefighters.

Address - easily visible.



Avoid any vegetation or other flammable material under eaves and overhangs. The heat from a fire gets trapped and can cause the structure to ignite.

Chimneys need screens or spark arresters to avoid starting a fire with burning embers.

Driveway - wide enough for fire engines to maneuver.

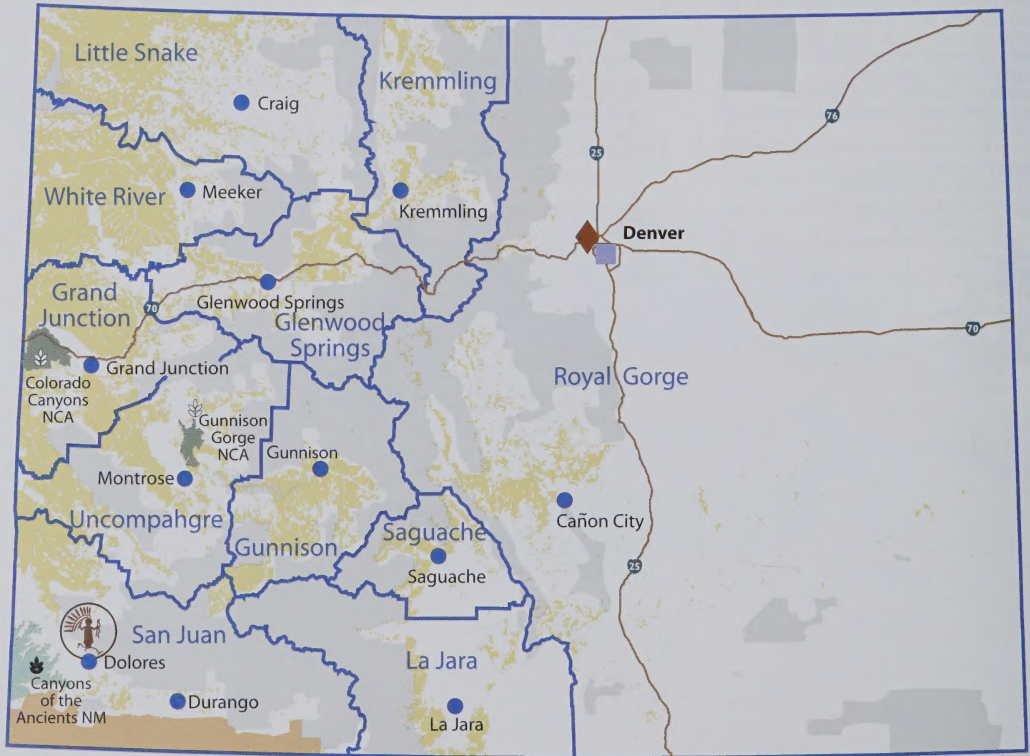
Source: Keep Montana Green Association

KEN BARNEDT/Missoulian

COLORADO

Colorado State Office
 2850 Youngfield Street
 Lakewood, CO 80215
 303-239-3600
www.co.blm.gov

8.4 million acres of surface land
 27.1 million acres of subsurface mineral estate underlying Federal surface land
 800,000 acres of tribal lands where the BLM has trust responsibility for mineral operations
 5.9 million acres of subsurface mineral estate underlying privately owned land (not shown on map)



- BLM-managed lands
- BLM-administered minerals underlying Federal surface (excluding National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service units)
- ✿ BLM National Monument
- ✿ BLM National Conservation, Recreation, and Protection Areas (National Conservation Areas, National Recreation Areas, Outstanding Natural Areas, and Cooperative Management and Protection Areas)
- Tribal lands where the BLM has trust responsibility for mineral operations
- BLM State Office
- BLM Field Offices
- BLM Field Office Boundaries
- Major Highways
- ✿ Anasazi Heritage Center

Public Rewards from Public Lands 2003

COLORADO

Public Rewards from Public Lands: Colorado

TRAVEL TO THE TOP of Pikes Peak, and it's easy to see why Colorado inspired the words to "America the Beautiful."

Colorado has more than 8 million acres of public lands, ranging in elevation from 4,000 to 14,000 feet. These lands, which are managed by the Bureau of Land Management, are mostly in the western portion of the State. They include dazzling landscapes—colorful canyons, broad mesas, and majestic mountain ranges.

Multiple Use

The BLM lands are often thought of as "America's backyard," and the public lands in Colorado are certainly no exception. Here, people rely on the public lands for recreation, for cultural or historical tourism, and for traditional uses like grazing and mining. Coloradans are looking more and more to the public lands—whether it's for the peace and solitude of a historic trail or for the benefits of energy development.

The public lands have something to offer everyone. The BLM in Colorado seeks to conserve and protect the public lands and their resources, while also allowing them to be used for many activities.

Recreation

The BLM lands offer first-class recreational opportunities ranging from hunting to hiking, mountain biking, off-highway-vehicle use, camping, backpacking, fishing, nature study, photography, and camping.

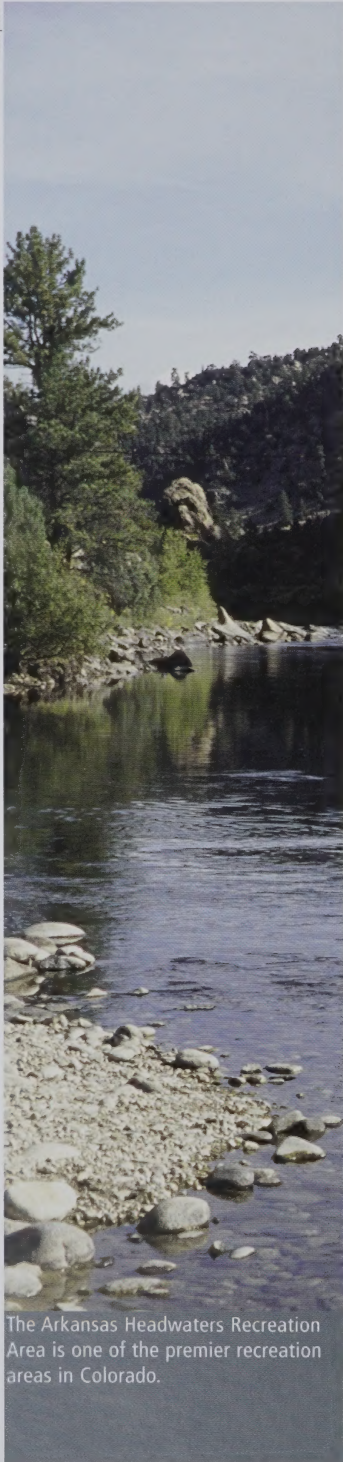
Public lands in the Red Hill area near Glenwood Springs provide an important "close to town" recreation area for residents of the Roaring Fork Valley. The demands to preserve Red Hill's unique recreational and aesthetic values, as well as to address the associated impacts from recreational use, have accelerated as the region prospers and grows. In response to these demands, a group of concerned users and neighbors formed the Red Hill Council. The Council includes many collaborating partners: interested citizens, local businesses, adjacent landowners, the town of Carbondale, Garfield County, Aspen Glen development, Western Slope Consulting, and the BLM. The Council's objective is to develop recommendations that will protect public lands managed by the BLM and minimize conflicts while continuing to provide for recreational use.

The Alpine Loop Back Country Byway, managed by the Gunnison



BLM photo

BLM photo



The Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area is one of the premier recreation areas in Colorado.

Field Office, offers spectacular opportunities for recreation. The BLM has formed the Alpine Triangle Recreation Management Area to serve the three gateway communities that are adjacent to the public lands. Lake City, Silverton, and Ouray now depend on tourism and recreation trade for revenue, which is a departure from their traditional revenue source of mining. To help sustain the economic health of each of these towns, the BLM formed a partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, Colorado Department of Transportation, county governments, historical societies, and chambers of commerce. Promoting communication among the communities and providing mutual support enables the partners to market the area as a premier destination for visitors. Local businesses that provide amenities such as food, lodging, and recreation supplies continue to benefit from this successful collaboration.

Energy

One of the BLM's responsibilities as a land manager is to implement the President's National Energy Policy to reduce America's dependence on foreign energy supplies. As a manager of vast energy and mineral resources, the BLM plays a natural and key role in ensuring that Colorado and this country have enough energy resources.

In Colorado, the BLM manages energy development for all Federal agencies. Therefore, we work to ensure that the lands are protected and that the proceeds provide the

State of Colorado with resources for roads, schools, and other government-funded projects. Part of the BLM's mission is to identify public lands that are available for the development of energy resources. The BLM also identifies when restrictions to energy development activities are necessary to protect other resource values such as water quality, wildlife habitat, and threatened or endangered species habitat.

Resource Protection

Although the BLM manages the public lands for multiple uses, conserving and protecting Colorado's natural resources for present and future generations is an important part of our role as land managers. Some of the most breathtaking landscapes in the U.S., including national monuments, national conservation areas, wilderness study areas, and cultural and historical sites, are managed by the BLM in Colorado. Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area, and the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area were designated within BLM's National Landscape Conservation System.

Planning and community support are a critical part of how the BLM manages the public lands in Colorado—now and in the future. For example, the Anasazi Historical Society supports the Anasazi Heritage Center collections and exhibits program, primarily sponsoring internships and temporary exhibits related to the Chappell collection.

The collection is owned by the heritage center and is stored there through a 50-year loan agreement. Additionally, the Save America's Treasures Project, cosponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is supporting a 3-year Anasazi Heritage Center project to retrieve and preserve collections from public lands now stored in facilities without climate control or access.

Public Participation

The BLM in Colorado knows that by working with local communities, we can get citizens involved in managing their public lands and they can help us make very important decisions.

Public discussions regarding the protection of Colorado's public lands date back to 1894 when the *Salt Lake Times* ran a story detailing the interest in protecting the region that is currently the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument. Public discussions are still important to the BLM in Colorado—so that we can better develop a shared vision that supports the public lands. The BLM is involving the public—both locally and nationally—in decisions we make regarding the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument. Our goal is to prepare a management plan in close consultation with appropriate Federal, State, tribal, county, and local agencies. We also plan to manage the monument in concert with local citizens and volunteers, building a tradition of local stewardship.

In keeping with Interior Secretary Gale Norton's four Cs—consultation, cooperation, and communication, all in the service of conservation—we can continue to work towards effectively managing the public lands.

Wild Horses

The BLM is responsible for the protection and preservation of wild horses and burros that roam on public lands. In Colorado, you can find colorful bands of wild horses scattered throughout four uniquely beautiful herd management areas: Piceance-East Douglas Creek, west of Meeker; Little Book Cliffs, north-east of Grand Junction; Sandwash Basin in the northwestern part of the State; and Spring Creek Basin, southwest of Montrose. These areas present opportunities for viewing wild horse herds and their habitats.

Due to Federal protection and the lack of natural predators, wild horse and burro herd sizes often expand beyond the capability of the range to support them. It is often necessary to gather the excess animals and make them available for adoption. Through a cooperative agreement with the Colorado Department of Corrections, the Colorado Wild Horse Inmate Program was begun in 1986. This partnership brings together a surplus of wild horses and a workforce of prison inmates who halter and saddle train the horses, making it easier for the public to adopt them. More than 5,000 horses have been trained and adopted as a result of the program.



The Gold Belt Tour National Scenic Byway follows railroad and stagecoach routes to historic mining towns in Colorado.

BLM photo

Public Rewards from Public Lands 2003

COLORADO

BLM photo



Boating is popular at the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area.

Fire

The BLM in Colorado has weathered some steep—and tragic—challenges in fighting wildfires in the last several years. The record drought wreaked havoc on our State and others. But the challenges of fighting fires are getting tougher all the time as more people move into or next to wildlands. Ensuring public and firefighter safety and protecting property and natural resources remain BLM's priorities.

The BLM supports the National Fire Plan and implements it by working with State and local governments and neighborhood communities to provide education and fire management assistance. In Colorado, the BLM provides funds, training, support, and other assistance to American Red Cross (ARC) volunteers who work with the Colorado State Forest Service in western Colorado to promote community wildfire preparedness. In a pilot program, ARC volunteers were trained in the basics of Firewise landscaping and construction, as well as in community-based fire education methods. They work with neighborhood leadership, the local community, and rural fire departments to organize community education meetings where agency specialists teach fire behavior and fire ecology. The pilot program has been very successful in Colorado, and ARC is considering expanding to other States.

In 2001, the BLM in Colorado provided about a half million dollars

in assistance to more than a hundred fire departments within 38 Colorado counties. The BLM also provided support through grants to assist nearly two dozen Colorado counties in developing County Fire Management Plans. Moffat County and the Little Snake Field Office in Craig have teamed up to collaboratively prepare fire management plans that lay the groundwork for seamless fire and fuels management operations.

Customer Service

To improve service to the public and to help meet the demands of managing the public lands, the BLM has developed partnerships to promote better ways of doing business. For example, the BLM in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Region of the U.S. Forest Service have developed a joint strategy referred to as Service First. This ongoing strategy allows the agencies to provide convenient, one-stop shopping for their customers and to reduce costs by sharing resources and reengineering public land management practices to make them more cost-effective. Implementing these "best practices" has resulted in improved customer service and better land management.

The BLM and National Park Service have combined funding, staff, and technical resources to provide more "seamless" management of the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area and the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park. The agencies have developed joint visitor services materials, shared law enforcement and field

office staff, and cooperatively managed their respective areas.

BLM Colorado continues its efforts to keep the public lands free of illegal drugs. Throughout the State, the BLM has agreements with Colorado County Sheriffs and the Colorado National Guard to locate and eradicate illegal drugs on public lands.

All of these arrangements have resulted in more effective on-the-ground

management, improved visitor services and information, permit compliance, and resource protection.

SO COME ENJOY our colorful, spacious skies. Gaze upon our purple mountain majesties, our amber waves of grain. With so much beautiful scenery and so much to offer, Colorado will inspire people for generations to come.



Many off-highway vehicle enthusiasts visit the North Sand Hills Special Recreation Management Area.



The public lands in Colorado offer many great mountain biking trails.

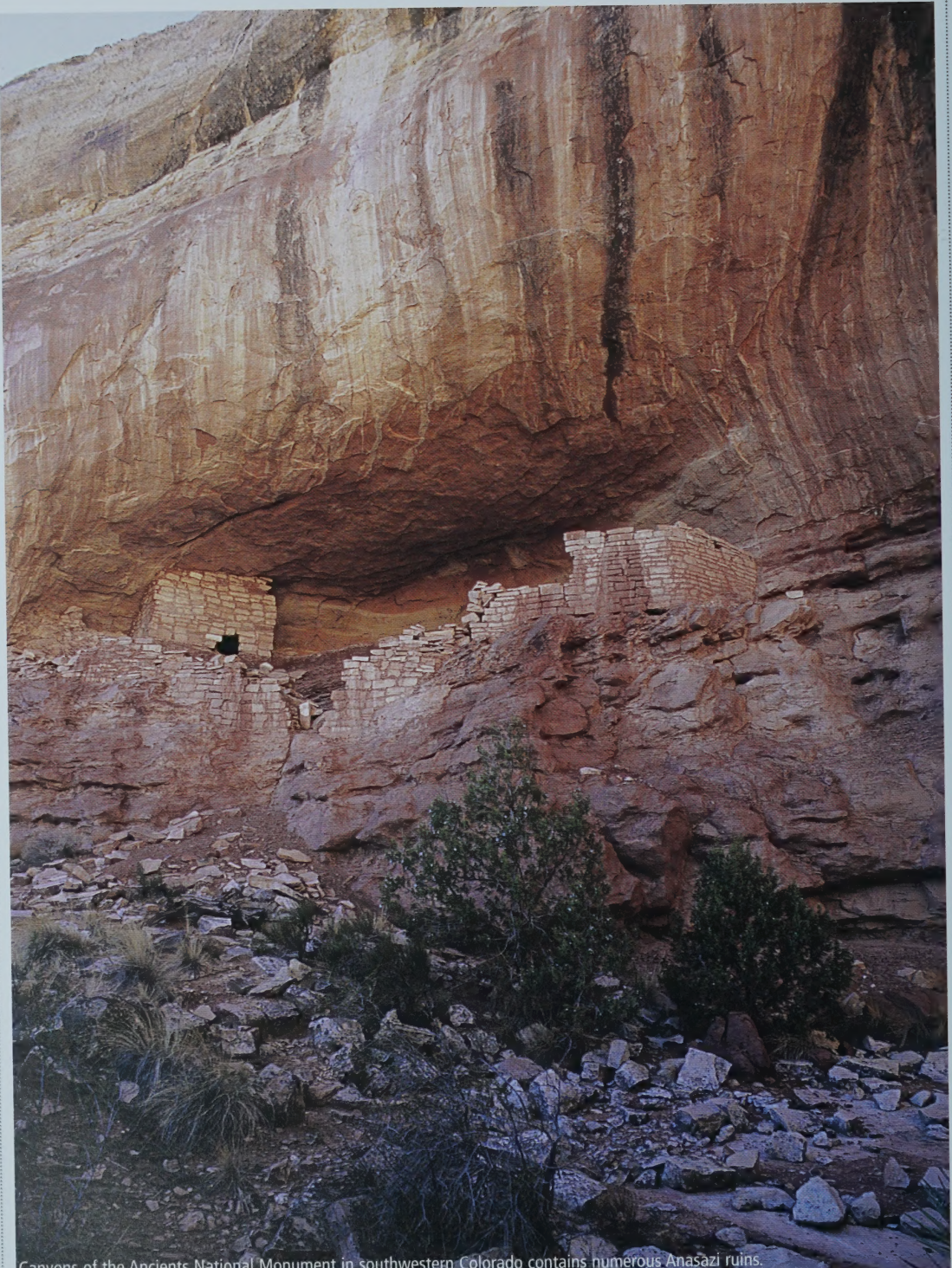
BLM photo

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Public Rewards from Public Lands 2003

COLORADO

Photo by Robert Jensen



Canyons of the Ancients National Monument in southwestern Colorado contains numerous Anasazi ruins.

COLORADO, Fiscal Year 2002

Federal Collections from BLM-Managed Lands and Minerals

Grazing Fees	\$614,167
Recreation and Use Fees	\$379,764
FLPMA Rights-of-Way Rent	\$439,024
Miscellaneous Receipts	\$2,285,471
Sale of Land and Materials	\$1,026,481
Timber Receipts	
Public Domain	\$156,238
Mining Claim Holding Fees and Service Charges	\$465,375
Mineral Royalties, Rents, and Bonuses ¹	\$104,098,389
TOTAL	\$109,464,909

Direct BLM Financial Transfers to Colorado

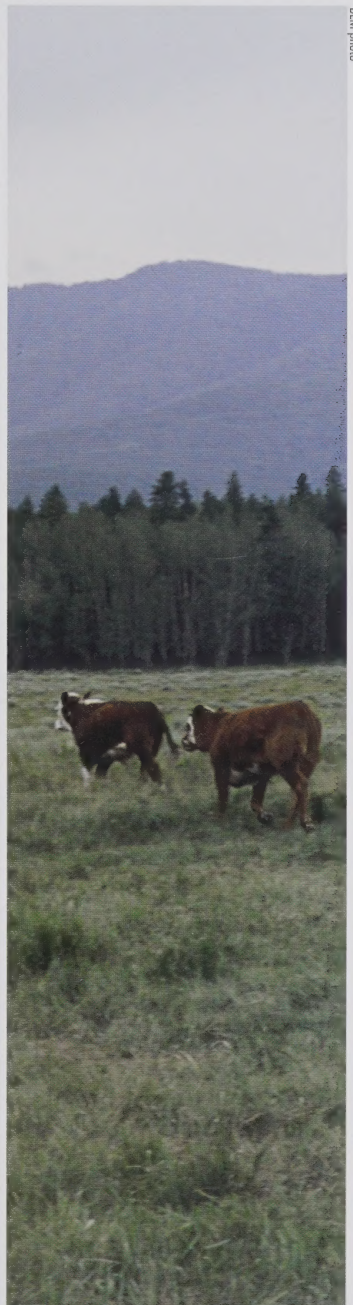
Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)	\$14,530,051
Grazing Fees ²	\$5,100
Proceeds of Sales ²	\$2,908
Timber Receipts	
Public Domain ²	\$57
Mineral Royalties, Rents, and Bonuses	\$43,921,607
TOTAL	\$58,459,723

BLM Investment in Colorado

Management of Land and Resources	\$86,529,000
Land Acquisition	\$4,500,000
Range Improvements	\$416,000
Construction and Access	\$212,000
Central Hazardous Materials	\$157,000
Wildland Fire Preparedness	\$7,036,000
Wildland Fire Operations	\$8,667,000
TOTAL	\$107,517,000

¹Actual fiscal year 2002 figures would normally be derived from an automated statistical system, Mineral Revenues Information (MRI), operated by the Minerals Management Service (MMS). The MRI that operated under the former Auditing and Financial System (AFS) was terminated in October 2001 when MMS switched from AFS to a new financial system. Development of MRI under the new financial system was delayed when a Federal District Court Order terminated the Department of the Interior's access to the Internet beginning December 6, 2001. MMS was not authorized to resume connection to the Internet until March 22, 2002. Work on MRI development could not continue without Internet access. Once MRI is completed, actual fiscal year 2002 data will become available. The allocation of receipts by revenue type and commodity for Federal onshore and American Indian lands have necessarily been estimated by MMS analysts in conjunction with a senior Department analyst. These estimates took into account known transactions during fiscal year 2002 and historical averages. The analysts generally used historical data from the fiscal year 1998 through fiscal year 2000 period for many of the estimates. Fluid mineral revenues during fiscal year 2001 were skewed by unusually high oil and gas prices during that year. The analysts elected to use the fiscal year 1998 through fiscal year 2000 period, when oil and gas prices approached historic norms.

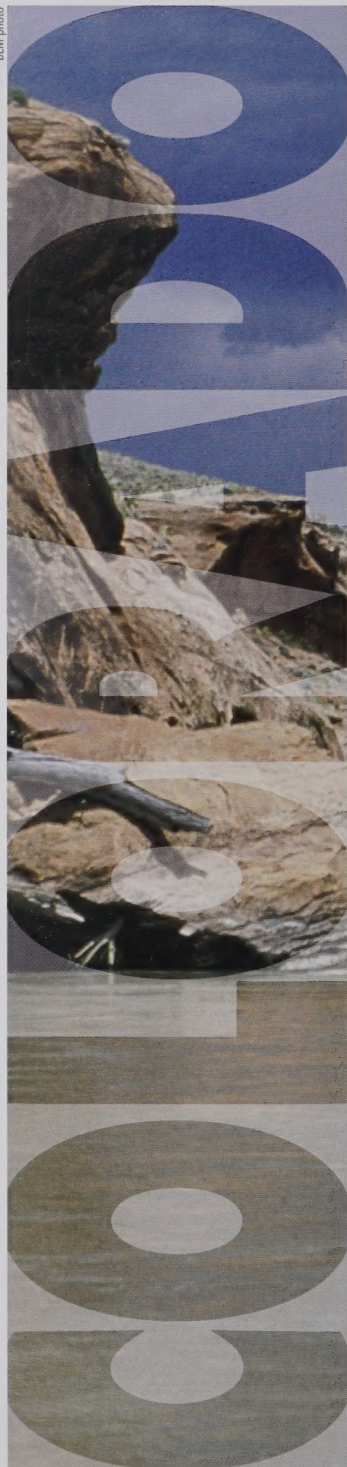
²Due to a change in procedures, only the payment for the 12th month was made to the States in fiscal year 2002. Previously, the payments for the first 11 months of the fiscal year (October through August) were made in September of the same fiscal year and the payment for the 12th month was made in late October or early November of the next fiscal year. This procedure was changed in fiscal year 2002, for which there will be only one payment. Therefore, the only payment that was made in fiscal year 2002 was the payment for the 12th month of fiscal year 2001, which caused the decrease in the amount of the payments.



BLM photo

Colorado public lands provide forage and habitat for domestic livestock.

BLM photo



Commercial Use Activity in Colorado on BLM-Managed Land, Fiscal Year 2002

Grazing Permits and Leases	1,604 permits and leases, 644,216 animal unit months
Timber Volume Sold	1,934 hundred cubic feet
Oil and Gas Leasing	284 new holes started, 1,317,236 acres in producing status, 3,137 wells capable of production
Coal Production ¹	27 producing leases, 22,834,913 tons produced
Mineral Materials (Salables)	681 permits issued, 453,793 cubic yards produced
Nonenergy Leasables ¹	21,762 acres under lease, 305,150 tons produced
Exploration and Mining Activity (Locatables)	101 notices reviewed, 8 plans of operation reviewed
Rights-of-Way	175 granted

¹Denotes fiscal year 2001 figures. Actual fiscal year 2002 figures would normally be derived from an automated statistical system, Mineral Revenues Information (MRI), operated by the Minerals Management Service (MMS). The MRI that operated under the former Auditing and Financial System (AFS) was terminated in October 2001 when MMS switched from AFS to a new financial system. Development of MRI under the new financial system was delayed when a Federal District Court Order terminated the Department of the Interior's access to the Internet beginning December 6, 2001. MMS was not authorized to resume connection to the Internet until March 22, 2002. Work on MRI development could not continue without Internet access. Once MRI is completed, actual fiscal year 2002 data will become available.

Estimated Recreation Use in Colorado on BLM-Managed Land, Fiscal Year 2002

Visitor Days

Boating—motorized	3,982
Boating—row, float, or paddle	91,922
Camping and picnicking	956,287
Driving for pleasure	243,982
Fishing	75,870
Hunting	533,151
Interpretation, education, and viewing public land resources	361,942
Nonmotorized travel	550,859
Off-highway vehicle travel	400,637
Snowmobile and other winter motorized travel	11,758
Specialized motor sports, events, and activities	82
Specialized nonmotor sports, events, and activities	246,326
Swimming and other water activities	8,959
Winter/nonmotorized activities	11,371
TOTAL	3,497,128

Recreation Fee Demonstration Program

3 projects	\$164,665 collected
1. Anasazi Heritage Center	
2. Gunnison River Gorge (2) ¹	
3. Upper Colorado (2)	

¹Numbers in parentheses at the end of the projects named above indicate the number of individual sites within the pilot project. Thus, (2) means there are two separate sites included in that pilot project.

Public Land Treasures in Colorado under BLM Stewardship as of September 30, 2002

National Monuments	1 monument (163,852 acres)
Cultural Resources	45,788 acres inventoried (1,482 properties recorded)
Wilderness Areas	4 areas (139,524 acres)
Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs)	55 WSAs (623,021 acres)
National Conservation, Recreation, and Protection Areas	2 areas (179,907 acres)
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs)	66 ACECs (621,589 acres)
National Natural Landmarks	2 areas (1,036 BLM acres)
Research Natural Areas (RNAs)	3 RNAs (477 acres)

Wild Horse and Burro Program in Colorado, Fiscal Year 2002

Animal	Estimated Current Population	Animals Taken Off Range	Number of Animals Adopted ¹
Wild horses	840	373	311
Wild burros	0	0	54

¹Some animals are not adopted the same year that BLM removes them from the range.



Beautiful views await hikers at the trailhead to Spear Lake in American Basin near Lake City.

BLM photo

Comment Card

FORM APPROVED
OMB NO. 1040-0001

Expires: January 31, 2005

Thank you for your help!

We estimate the reporting burden for this form to average 20 minutes, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form can be directed to the Bureau of Land Management Information Collection Clearance Officer, (WO-630), 1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 401-LS, Washington, DC 20240.

Paperwork Reduction Act

BLM collects this information to determine the satisfaction of our customers with various services and products that we provide. We will evaluate the data and use it to improve our services to our customers. Response to this request is not required. BLM may not collect or sponsor a collection of information without an OMB approval number.

Report Title: Public Rewards from Public Lands 2003	Needs Major Improvement							Excellent	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
1. The information in this report was useful.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
2. The information in the report was well prepared/organized.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
3. The report was timely.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
4. How would you rate your overall satisfaction with this report?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		

5. What changes would you like to see? (circle all that apply)

- a. Less Information b. More Information c. More Plain English d. More Graphics
e. Other, please explain _____

6. What portion of the report was most useful to you? (circle all that apply)

- a. National Fire Plan Article b. National Data c. State Data
d. State Narrative e. Guide to Table Data f. Other, please explain _____

7. Your primary interest in the Bureau of Land Management is from the perspective of which of the following groups? (circle one)

- a. Citizen/Taxpayer b. Senator/Congressional Representative c. Member of the Media
d. Student e. Capitol Hill Staff f. Stakeholder or Partner/Interest Group
g. Use Authorization/Permitted or Commercial User h. Federal Employee
i. Recreational and Educational User/Public Land Visitor j. State and Local Government
k. Tribal Government l. Other _____

8. How did you learn of this report? (circle one)

- a. Mailing List b. Internet c. Meeting/Conference d. BLM Office e. Other _____

9. Was the report delivered to the appropriate person in your organization? Yes No

(New addressee) _____

10. How do you prefer to receive this report?

- a. E-mail _____ b. Internet _____ c. Intranet _____
d. U.S. Postal Service e. Other _____

Thank you for your help!

After folding as a self-mailer, please tape and return the completed comment card to:
BLM; Public Affairs, MS 406-LS; 1849 C St NW; Washington, DC 20240

Please provide your name and address so we can include you on our mailing list for this publication.

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The Bureau of Land Management Today

Our Vision

To enhance the quality of life for all citizens through the balanced stewardship of America's public lands and resources.

Our Mission

To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Our Values

To serve with honesty, integrity, accountability, respect, courage, and commitment to make a difference.

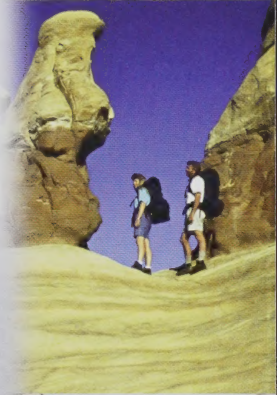
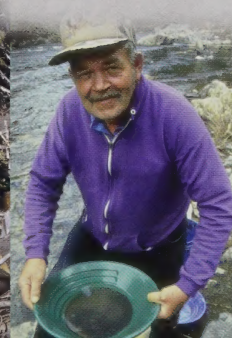
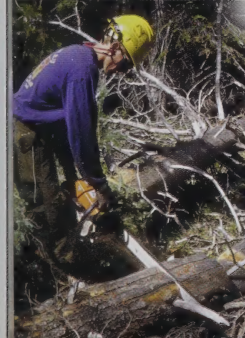
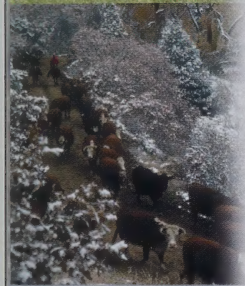
Our Priorities

To improve the health and productivity of the land to support the BLM multiple-use mission.

To cultivate community-based conservation, citizen-centered stewardship, and partnership through consultation, cooperation, and communication.

To respect, value, and support our employees, giving them resources and opportunities to succeed.

To pursue excellence in business practices, improve accountability to our stakeholders, and deliver better service to our customers.



Cover Photo: Cattle drives still take place along the Gold Belt Tour National Scenic Byway in Colorado.
Photo by Bob Wick

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202-452-5125

Internet Address: <http://www.blm.gov>

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